

**FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of November 15, 2000 - (approved)**  
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The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met at 2:00 PM on November 15, 2000, in Capen 567 to consider the following agenda:

1. [Approval of the minutes of October 25 and November 1, 2000](#)
2. [Report of the Chair](#)
3. [Report of the President/Provost](#)
4. [Greek Affairs Advisory Board - Madison Boyce, Director, Student Judiciary, Pamela Stephens-Jackson, University Liaison for Greek Affairs](#)
5. [UB Policy on Custody, Maintenance and Retention of Research Data - Dr. Dale Landi, Vice President for Research](#)
6. [The OASIS Project - Leonard Snyder, Senior Associate Vice President](#)
7. Old/new business

**Item 1: Report of the Chair**

The Chair reported that:

1. a proposal to distribute responsibility for safety on campus to the Decanal units was discussed at last week's Professional Staff Senate Executive Committee meeting and will be presented to the FSEC, probably at its December 6 meeting
2. the Provost has forwarded a proposal from the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences to merge the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology with the Department of Pathology; the proposal has been referred to the Academic Planning Committee; Professor Malone has agreed to conduct the APC's discussion of this matter since the Chair is a member of the Department of Pathology; the APC may report to the FSEC on December 6; Professor Kramer will conduct the FSEC's discussion of the APC's report

3. the FSEC's next meeting, the final meeting of the semester, will be on December 6; the December 13 meeting with the Provost has been canceled; the next meeting with the Provost will be on February 7
4. Professor Beth Tauke, Chair of the University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee which reviews new course proposals, has asked for suggestions of high priority items that the Committee should discuss from groups involved in undergraduate education
5. the following Faculty Senate Committees are active: on November 29 the Provost and the Academic Planning Committee will discuss performance indicators and how the academic units will go about developing and using them; the APC will also discuss the merger of the School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences' Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology and the Department of Pathology; the Grading Committee is working on a Second Chance proposal which will be presented at the FSEC's December 6 meeting; the Public Service Committee will develop a statement on service as part of the promotion and tenure process; the Deans found considerable problems with a statement on evaluating scholarship developed by the Chair of the President's Review Board; the Research and Creative Activity Committee will conduct a faculty survey aimed at improving the campus climate for research; the Committee reviewed a proposal from Vice President Landi on preservation of data; the Committee also expressed concern about the implementation of the OASIS system; the Teaching and Learning Committee is developing a proposal for an Office of Teaching and Learning and will be meeting with the Provost

### There were questions for the Chair:

- elaborate on academic units being responsible for safety issues (Professor Swartz)
- will faculty be issued guns? (Professor Smith)
- issue is not personal safety, but environmental and workplace safety (Vice President Black)

**Item 2: Report of the Provost** With the first snow of the season on the ground, the Provost reported that her two dogs had progressed another step in their acclimatization to Buffalo. Marcus was oblivious, but Samantha saw the snow as an obstacle to be removed before she could reach earth. The Senators, hardened Buffalonians all, assured the Provost that since snow turns dirty very quickly, Samantha would not have a long term problem. They

also pointed out that the real bane of Buffalo winters is ice which snow is very effective at hiding.

Since the only person who knew how to score the UBCats forms has left, the Provost is considering revising the forms used to gather student evaluations of teaching. She and the Deans are interested in having a common core of questions to which each academic unit could add appropriate questions, in being able to compile summary statistics and in having a comment section which only the faculty member would see. Associate Dean Peter Gold is chairing a committee to work on the revision. The Provost asked that the Faculty Senate nominate someone to join the committee.

- in large decanal units, departments should be allowed to add discipline specific questions

(Professor Schack)

Steven Poskanzer, SUNY Senior Associate Provost, will be visiting UB, giving Provost Capaldi the opportunity to meet him. The Provost has asked a wide spectrum of faculty to meet with Senior Associate Provost Poskanzer; additionally he will meet with Dean Triggles to discuss quality measures, especially in regard to awarding tuition scholarships.

Quality measures are being discussed in SUNY as a basis for allocating state funding. SUNY Stony Brook favors using the National Research Council's rankings in which it did well. Provost Capaldi believes the NRC data are too old to be useful. She favors measuring quality of faculty by looking at faculty awards and research dollars over of the last several years. She asked for suggestions of discipline appropriate quality measures.

- job placement of graduates is important in the Department of Music (Professor Smith)

The Provost attended two strategic planning exercises sponsored by the UB Business Alliance. The Alliance's objective is integrate Western New York's need for economic development with UB's capacity in research and technology creation. UB's role is to do the science; the business community's role is to create new businesses and to enhance existing businesses; what is lacking is a good interface structure between those two roles that would lead to prototype creation.

- what is the role of the Incubator? (Professor Fourtner)
- the Incubator is only for start up companies, not for prototype development; may be able to change the legislation that set up the Incubator (Provost Capaldi)
- a good example of collaboration is that between the Earthquake Engineering Research Center and Taylor Devices (Professor Baumer)
- the Buffalo and Niagara Enterprise (BNE) has \$27M to promote Western New York but has not been aware of UB's great capacity in biomedical research and in computer research so BNE staff will be visiting UB (Provost Capaldi)
- on a different topic, the Graduate School is presenting as a fait accompli the requirement that faculty be re-appointed every five years; what is the stance of the Provost on this? (Professor Boot)
- it is a proposal of a committee in the Graduate School, not a requirement imposed by the University (Provost Capaldi)

**Item 3: Greek Affairs Advisory Board** The Faculty Senate Student Life Committee has a subcommittee which looks at issues involving Greek affairs. Because the number of Greeks at UB has been atrophic for some years, the Student Life Committee has been concerned and has recommended that the University take a proactive role toward Greek affairs.

The University has recently relocated the Greek Advisory Board and its staff to the Office of the Ombudsman. The Board has been assessing the situation as to Greek organizations and establishing goals for this academic year. The Board hopes to increase the number of Greeks and their positive impact on the campus; it has established relationships with the Student Life Committees of both the Faculty and the Professional Staff Senates, and it has involved Greeks in identifying what support they would find helpful.

Ombudsman Boyce and Ms. Stephens-Jackson, University Liaison for Greek Affairs offered information about Greek affairs:

- Students are very interested in having contact with faculty outside the classroom. Faculty can guide and advise sororities and fraternities, but faculty advisors are not responsible for their actions.

- Greeks contribute to the quality of student life, participating in social and athletic activities to a greater degree than non-Greeks. They have a higher retention rate. Long term, they are more active alumni.
- Sororities and fraternities are stereotypically linked to alcohol. However, at UB they must sign off on an explanation of their legal obligations and liabilities with regard to alcohol. Furthermore, the national organizations require local chapters to carry very expensive liability insurance which imposes risk management obligations. Local chapters usually appoint a risk management officer who undertakes to keep the chapter's social affairs in compliance with local and state law and with University policies on alcohol.
- In order to participate in the rush process, students must have a 2.0 GPA, so rush is delayed to a freshman's second semester.
- With one exception Greek groups are based off campus; Pi Kappa Phi, which is linked with the Preprofessional Special Interest Housing Group, is located in the Ellicott Complex. Greeks would like on campus housing, but that goal will not be quickly achieved.
  - how do Greek organizations fare academically? (Professor Malone)
  - off the top of my head, average undergraduate GPA was about 2.8; male Greeks 2.6 and female Greeks 2.8; one of the goals of the Advisory Board is to raise the Greek GPA through monthly workshops and advisement (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
  - are mid-semester grades, especially for pledging members, monitored as is done for athletes? (Professor Danforth)
  - not at present, but it's a good idea (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
  - are there plans to have Greeks on campus? (Professor Sridhar)
  - no current plans; if Greeks demonstrate they are a positive force and are academically viable, sometime in the next decade might begin to plan (Ombudsman Boyce)
  - good to have figures on retention rates for Greeks (Professor Adams-Volpe)
  - have retention figures by semester to 1990 and am consolidating and standardizing various statistics (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
  - besides playing cop to the Greeks, is the Board doing anything positive to encourage their development? (Professor Danforth)

- recognizes academic achievement, organizes social events, offers team building events, etc. (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- is the Order of Omega, an umbrella organization for the leadership of the fraternities and sororities to discuss issues of common concern and promote Greek life, active?; was a founding member of the local chapter (Professor Danforth)
- not active currently, but have contacted the national headquarters and will be in touch with you (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- what are the ethnic and racial composition of the Greek organizations UB has and are they diverse in their membership? (Professor Noble)
- neither Panhellenic Council sororities or Inter Fraternity Council fraternities have ethnicity or cultural requirements, however, their membership is mostly Caucasian; United Council of Cultural Fraternities & Sororities organizations include historically black, Latino/a and Asian fraternities and sororities which are predominantly but not exclusively composed of members of those racial and cultural groups (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- is it UB policy to promote diversity in the Greek organizations? (Professor Noble)
- the Board can promote the value of diversity, but rushing students and current members make the actual membership decisions; have had no complaints from students denied membership in a Greek organization that they wanted to join (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- are we monitoring the fraternities that are operating without UB recognition? (Professor Smith)
- have no jurisdiction over those fraternities; do try to warn parents and students about them; call my office with questions about the legitimacy of a fraternity (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- we also advise the national organizations of clandestine use of their names (Ombudsman Boyce)
- how many students are active in Greek organizations on campus? (Professor Ellison)
- approximately 450 students; in 1992/1993 was about 1,200 (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- who monitors honorary fraternities? (Professor Baumer)
- get calls about them, but are not part of the office's responsibility (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- what leadership opportunities are available for Greeks? (Professor Nickerson)
- in conjunction with UB's Student Leadership Development Center, offer an institute on leadership every semester; reviving the Order of Omega would also offer leadership opportunities (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)

- leadership opportunities also exist at the local and national levels of fraternities and sororities, the Panhellenic Association, and the Inter-Fraternity Council (Professor Danforth)
- the Board recognizes 42 Greek organizations at UB; what levels of membership do they have? (Professor Smith)
- ranges from 7 to 40; cultural organizations tend to be smaller because of a smaller membership pool (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- explain "substance free" organizations (Professor Nickerson)
- some national Greek organizations forbid alcohol or drugs on local chapter premises or organization money being spent on alcohol; chapters must use off premises third party vendors to serve alcohol (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- what is the situation in regard to hazing? (Professor Nickerson)
- explain the legal liabilities of hazing and try to steer groups into activities which include all members rather than just new members (Ms. Stephens-Jackson)
- difficult for the University to deal with hazing because typically it is not done publicly, but as a part of secret rituals; this is an area in which an involved faculty advisor can be very helpful (Professor Danforth)
- Greek groups are required to have philanthropic projects; would welcome suggestions for such projects (Ombudsman Boyce)

**Item 4: Approval of the minutes of October 25 and November 1, 2000** The minutes of October 25 and November 1, 2000 were approved.

**Item 5: UB Policy on Custody, Maintenance and Retention of Research Data** The Chair explained that the Faculty Senate has been asked to comment on a proposed UB policy on the custody, maintenance and retention of research data. The proposed policy covers matters of federal regulation and SUNY policy.. The Faculty Senate Research and Creative Activity Committee reviewed the policy but made no specific comments.

The Vice President for Research, Dr. Dale Landi, provided ground to the proposed policy. Until now UB has not had a policy on the retention of research data; the matter was governed solely by federal regulation. Because federal regulations and disputes over research data have become so numerous, a UB policy seemed advisable. Additionally recently enacted federal law makes university research data subject to the Freedom of Information

Act. This has been a matter of great controversy within the research community.

The proposed policy is based on best policies from other research institutions. It adopts the federal definition of research data as any “records... necessary for the reconstruction, evaluation and validation of reported results... and the events and processes leading to those results”.

There were comments from the floor:

- the policy requires retaining data for three years following the completion of the project; data may be used over a long period so what constitutes “completion”? (Professor Sridhar)
- for funded research, the end of the grant; for unfunded research there is no clear answer (Vice President Landi)
- does the policy distinguish between keeping the data and keeping the final report which usually doesn’t usually contain data? (Professor Malone)
- federal regulations consider the final report part of the data (Vice President Landi)
- what provision is made for destruction of the data in a disaster, e.g., a flood? (Professor Noble)
- federal regulations don’t address the question, but would expect to be forgiven the obligation (Vice President Landi)
- could the retention function be centrally performed? (Professor Adams-Volpe)
- not practical for the University to do so, and, therefore, faculty research director has primary responsibility (Vice President Landi)
- explain the concept of “work-for-hire” (Professor Fournier)
- research or work done by students or faculty and which has not been externally funded is considered “work-for-hire” which is owned by the University; in most cases, however, SUNY policy returns full copyright to the researcher only reserving the right of the University to use the research without charge; ownership of externally sponsored research or work is governed by the terms of the grant (Vice President Landi)
- have had experience of private sponsors wanting to reserve possible patent rights from research (Professor Malone)

- SUNY policy does not permit licensing prior to an invention being made so only the right of first refusal can be contracted for; New York claims ownership of anything invented on state property; the moment of invention is fixed in the inventor's disclosure form; (Vice President Landi)
- are graduate students educated about these ownership issues? (Professor Nickerson)
- only now is UB developing an overview of all the pertinent policies that could be disseminated (Vice President Landi)
- if a researcher leaves UB during the course of research and completes the research at another institution, does UB have any rights to the research? (Vice President Turkkan)
- only if the stage was for the discovery was set at UB (Vice President Landi)

There was a motion (seconded) to receive and file the policy. The motion passed unanimously. **Item 6: The OASIS Project** The OASIS (Oracle Application Software Implementation Strategy) Project is being undertaken by the Research Foundation, in collaboration with SUNY, to replace its 30 year old, mainframe based business system with an "Oracle suite of grants management, financial and human resources applications to take advantage of Internet protocols and to provide a base structure for electronic interaction with sponsors and other entities". The new applications will be implemented on January 2, 2001. The Faculty Senate Research and Creative Activity Committee has expressed concern about moving to the new system without a pilot run while the old system is still operational.

Senior Associate Vice President Snyder described the project as a major one. The Research Foundation manages some 60K personnel records of active and retired employees SUNY-wide and the grants and contracts for research by SUNY faculty.

SUNY has been planning, developing, building and testing applications since 1998.

UB has played an active role in the development of OASIS with three key UB staff commuting to Albany several days a week for the last two years. Other staff have been in Albany since September working on testing, and UB content specialists have also been involved.

The old system will shut down on December 14, 2000. Data will

then be converted and transferred. The new system will be brought up SUNY-wide on January 2, 2001.

The Business Office expects to be most impacted by the change; effectively its 60 experienced employees will all become inexperienced. The Business Office underwent a similar experience last year when the State Controller changed the state payroll program, so it is aware of the work and stress this change will involve. UB is one of seven training hubs and is responsible for training its own staff and staff from other institutions in the Western New York area.

Training of Principal Investigators has begun. Senior Associate Vice President Snyder has participated in at least 20 small sessions, reaching over 200 people. There will be 8 major training sessions which require registration. Various documentation has been and will continue to be distributed.

There were questions and comments:

- will there be any disruption of RF paychecks? what level of computer is required to access the new system? can access be gained from off campus? (Professor Fournter)
- will run a set of paychecks on the old system to be distributed during the interim period; can access the new system with as little as a 286; access can be gained from any computer on which Citrix has been installed (Senior Associate Vice President Snyder)
- will the new system impact the nodes? (Professor Malone)
- where PI's are supported by node staff, that staff will install the Citrix Metaframe and will train in its use; where PI's have a non-nodal technical support person, will use that person (Senior Associate Vice President Snyder)
- are people aware this change will affect budgets? (Professor Baumer)
- an extra \$1.06 will be added to every biweekly \$10K of Research Foundation payroll, which addition will also be reflected in fringe benefits and indirect costs (Senior Associate Vice President Snyder)
- are there contingency plans? (Professor Nickerson)
- yes, but planning process has been very careful and reviewed by outsider experts; one concern stems from the fact that programs like ORACLE are new to higher education, e.g., the grants management module we will be using was developed 2 years ago at Yale and SUNY will

be the first implementor of the labor distribution concept (Senior Associate Vice President Snyder)

- move to new system necessary because the old system couldn't reasonably be converted to a Windows environment (Professor Baumer)
- is the UB Foundation considering using the new system? (Professor Shibley)
- was interest in doing so, but the cost was prohibitive (Senior Associate Vice President Snyder)
- cost to UBF was prohibitive because of development costs for fund accounting;; the RF has borne those development costs and perhaps UBF and the state side could piggy (Professor Baumer)

There being no old/new business, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn McMann Kramer

**Present:**

**Chair:** P Nickerson

**Secretary:** M. Kramer

**Parliamentarian:** D. Malone

**Architecture:** R. Shibley

**Arts & Sciences:** W. Baumer, C. Fournier, S. Schack, C. Smith

**Engineering & Applied Sciences:** R. Sridhar

**Health Related Professions:** G. Farkas

**Information Studies:** J. Ellison

**Law:** L. Swartz

**Management:** J. Boot

**Medicine & Biomedical Sciences:** B. Noble, A. El Solh, S. Spurgeon, E. Perese

**SUNY Senators:** J. Adams-Volpe, J. Boot, P. Nickerson

**University Officers:** E. Capaldi, Provost **Guests:** W. Coles, Chair, Professional Staff Senate

J. Lewandowski, *Reporter*  
K. Woodman, University Council Student Representative  
Robert Hoeing  
M. Boyce, University Ombudsman  
P. Stephens-Jackson, University Liaison for Greek Affairs  
M. Dybbro, Greek Affairs  
J. Turkkkan, Vice President of Research  
D. Landi, Vice President for Research  
D. Black, Vice President of Student Affairs  
K. Levy, Senior Vice Provost  
L. Snyder, Senior Associate Vice President  
S. Danforth, Faculty Senate Student Life Committee  
K. Purdy, *The Reporter*  
**Excused:** **Medicine & Biomedical Sciences:** C. Pruet  
**Absent:** **Arts & Sciences:** J. Meacham  
**Dental Medicine:** M. Easley  
**Graduate School of Education:** L. Malave  
**Pharmacy:** R. Madejski  
**University Libraries:** A. Booth